

Tēnā koutou,

We are pleased to let you know that the 2024/2025 Annual Practising Certificate (APC) round is now open.

All APC applications must be received by 31 March 2024.

From 1 April 2024, you must not practice midwifery unless you have a current practising certificate issued by Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council. APCs are issued annually but, in some cases, an interim practising certificate may be issued by Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council.

Please note that 1 April 2024 falls on Easter Monday and there will not be anyone in the office to answer any enquiries. To make sure that your application goes smoothly please apply by 27 March 2024 in case you need assistance with your application.

The office team is ready to assist you if you have any difficulties with your application. Please email us on info@midwiferycouncil.health.nz with your query and we will get back to you as quickly as possible.

As soon as possible after 19 February 2024 all kahu pōkai | midwives are asked to:

- 1.Check they can log into MyMCANZ
- 2.Ensure recertification programme details are up to date
- 3. Check they have a button "Apply for APC 2024_2025"

If you wish to remain on the Register of Midwives, but do not intend to practise midwifery in Aotearoa New Zealand between 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025, you should complete the "non-practising" process at APC renewal time.

Change of name

If you need to change your name, you will be able to action this through your MyMCANZ portal <u>here</u>.

Declaration for health

You must make a declaration about your fitness to practice. If your health may be impacting on your ability to practice midwifery, please complete a voluntary health disclosure and send to health@midwiferycouncil.health.nz

You will find relevant information and useful information in these 'how to' guides.

Recertification requirements 2024/2025

Under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (the HPCAA), all health care professionals must participate in ongoing education to maintain their competence.

Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council sets and monitors kahu pōkai | midwives Recertification Programme requirements. Engagement in the Recertification Programme is one way kahu pokai | midwives demonstrate ongoing competence.

The Recertification Programme requires all kahu pōkai | midwives to undertake certain educational components within a three-year period. If you are newly graduated, this education is covered within the Midwifery First Year of Practice Programme (MFYP).

Recertification is a continuous process, and all kahu pōkai | midwives must be able to declare that they have engaged in and met their Recertification Programme requirements when they apply to have their APC renewed.

Some kahu pōkai | midwives will not be able to apply online if there are overdue requirements unless an extension of time has been granted. Please email us if you need more information about this.

What is CPD?

The Recertification Programme is the mandatory component of Continuing Professional Development (CPD). There's a range of other professional development that kahu pōkai | midwives can do that enhances their practise which you should also upload under the CPD tab on your MyMCANZ. Please utilise the planner [LINK] in the relevant documents section.

You will need to ensure your CPD tab in MyMCANZ is up to date when you apply for your APC.

Prior to Christmas we communicated the council's decision on changes to the recertification programme which will come into effect from 1 July 2024.

To apply for your 2024/2025 APC you will need to <u>declare</u> you have engaged in the existing recertification programme.

Paying for your application

We are pleased to let you know that you are now able to pay via bank to bank transfer as well as by credit card.

This facility is called 'Account to Account' and is located under the 'Payment details' heading. Simply select the payment method and choose 'Account to Account'.

You will need to input your account details – the BSB number (the six digits at the start of your account number that indicate the name and branch of your bank) and the further numbers which are your personal account numbers.

Please remember that, while credit card payments process immediately, bank to bank transfer can be delayed at the discretion of some banks, so the money may not disappear immediately from your account.

We are not able to accept part payments of the APC application fee (except from new graduates applying for their first, partial, APC to enable them to practise between 1 October and 31 March).

Technical difficulties?

If you encounter any technical difficulties (eg error messages, can't see an option button, etc) please take a screenshot of the problem and email info@midwiferycouncil.health.nz. The screenshot will help us to identify the issue and be in a good position to assist you.

Please remember that the office will be closed from Friday 29 March to Monday 1 April 2024 for the Easter break and no staff will be available to answer any enquiries. To make sure that your application goes smoothly please apply by 27 March 2024 in case you need assistance.

Nāku iti noa, nā

Lesley Clarke, Chief Executive